

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 03505

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. NEITHER THE PNE PAPER NOR YOUR LETTER OF FEB. 5 HAS ARRIVED. GIVEN THE VAGARIES OF OUR UNCLASSIFIED POUCHES (SOME HAVE TAKEN TWO MONTHS TO COME), IT WOULD BE GOOD PRACTICE TO SEND ANYTHING IMPORTANT AND EVEN MODERATELY URGENT BY CLASSIFIED POUCH. LATTER COME IN A FEW DAYS AND ARE RARELY DELAYED BEYOND A WEEK TO TEN DAYS. ENVELOPE MARKED LOU AND REGISTERED WOULD ENSURE TRANSMITTAL BY COURIER POUCH.

2. RE SEVENTH AND TENTH FLOOR RENOVATION: FBO'S EXPLANATION SOUNDS LIKE BACK PEDDLING. IN FACT, MOST OF THE DOORS ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR ARE THE SAME AS THOSE THAT WERE ON THE EIGHTH - LAMINATED FIBER BOARD WITH PLASTIC COVERING. IN THE FIRE THEY BURNED VERY QUICKLY. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION IF THEY ARE REPLACED WITH SOLID CORE WOOD DOORS, ALTHOUGH WE SUSPECT THESE COST MORE THAN METAL DOORS, BUT THEY MUST BE REPLACED. THE CEILINGS OF ALL OF THE TENTH FLOOR AND THE NORTH HALF OF THE SEVENTH FLOOR HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY WATER DAMAGE. HALF OF THE
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OFFICES IN POL HAVE PLASTER AND PAINT HANGING DOWN FROM THE CEILING, SOME IN STRIPS UP TO A FOOT LONG. THE CHOICE IS EITHER REMOVE THE OLD PLASTER AND REPLASTER, OR USE SUSPENDED CEILINGS. WE DO NOT FEEL STRONGLY WHICH APPROACH IS TAKEN, BUT REPLASTERING WILL TAKE LONGER AND BE MORE DISRUPTIVE. REPLASTERING WILL ALSO BE LESS ATTRACTIVE SINCE MOST NEW ELECTRICAL WIRING AND THE FIRE

DETECTION SYSTEM WIRES WILL HAVE TO RUN ACROSS THE SURFACE
OF THE PLASTER CEILINGS. IT SEEMS TO US THAT WHILE THE
USE OF SUSPENDED CEILINGS ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR WILL
BE QUICKER, LESS EXPENSIVE AND MORE ATTRACTIVE, WE DO NOT
OBJECT TO THE REPLASTER APPROACH. TOON

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